

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 /054 W

----- 023102

R 052120Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0711

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 7614

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, CI

SUBJECT: CHILE'S RELATIONS WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON CHILE

REF: A) USUN 3054 B) STATE 191128

1. EMBOFF AUGUST 5 PASSED MESSAGE IN REF B TO MIGUEL SCHWEITZER JR. AS INSTRUCTED. IN CHARACTERISTICALLY BLUNT FASHION, SCHWEITZER SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE MESSAGE WELL: THE USG WAS USING THE BIG STICK. EMBOFF COMMENTED THAT HE WOULD NOT PUT IT SO DRAMATICALLY. RATHER, IT SEEMED TO HIM THAT THE DEPARTMENT WAS EXPRESSING THE FACTS OF LIFE: NO MATTER WHO MIGHT OBJECTIVELY BUNAT FAULT FOR A BREAKDOWN BETWEEN THE UNHRC WORKING GROUP AND CHILE, THE LATTER WOULD LOSE.

2. SCHWEITZER SAID HE ANTICIPATED THAT THE WORKING GROUP'S RESPONSE TO FONMIN CARVAJAL'S LETTER OF JULY 2 (PARA THREE, REF A) WOULD LEAVE THE GOC IN THE AIR: IT WOULD NOT FULLY SATISFY THE GOC, BUT IT WOULD NOT GIVE THE GOC AN OBVIOUS REASON NOT TO GO TO GENEVA. SCHWEITZER SAID HE WAS REPORING TO FONMIN CARVAJAL AUGUST 6 ON HIS VISIT TO NEW YORK AND WOULD DISCUSS THE EMBASSY'S MESSAGE THEN. HE HOPED TO REPORT BACK CARVAJAL'S REACTION.

3. SCHWEITZER CONTINUED THAT HERETOFORE THE GOC HAD HAD IN
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MIND THE POSSIBILITY OF BEING ISOLATED SHOULD TALKS WITH THE

WG CLEARLY FAIL. NOW, HOWEVER, IT HAS MADE AN ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF FAILURE, SO THAT THE QUESTION COULD BE CONSIDERED IN CLEAR TERMS OF NATIONAL INTEREST. THERE ARE SOME WITHIN THE GOC WHO WOULD LIKE TO SEE A FAILURE, WHICH THEY ANTICIPATE COULD BE USED TO STRENGTHEN THE GOC'S DOMESTIC POLITICAL POSITION. SCHWEITZER HIMSELF WOULD COUNSEL FONMIN CARVAJAL TO PROPOSE AN IN-DEPTH BRIEFING SESSION WITH PRESIDENT PINOCHET AFTER THE WG LETTER IS RECEIVED, SO THAT THE ENTIRE QUESTION COULD BE CONSIDERED WITH THE CARE IT DESERVES. HE SAID THAT THE ISSUE HAD NEVER BEEN GIVEN SUCH TREATMENT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SANTIA07614
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760302-1162
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760881/aaaactdp.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 USUN NEW YORK 3054, 76 STATE 191128
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <16 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHILE'S RELATIONS WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON CHILE
TAGS: SHUM, CI, UNHRC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006